

Message Text

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12

ACTION SCA-01

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 DHA-02 ORM-02 CIAE-00 FBIE-00

INSE-00 NSAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01

SP-02 VO-03 /036 W

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R 150916Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9596

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FOR VO AND SCA LOREN LAWRENCE FROM MAULE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CVIS, CGEN, LE

SUBJECT: LEBANESE REFUGEES

REF: BEIRUT 3271

1. WE HAVE JUST LEARNED OF SOME PRESS COVERAGE ON QUESTION OF LEBANESE NIV HOLDERS NOW IN U.S. ARABIC DAILY NAHAR APRIL 4 EDITION HAS BRIEF ARTICLE ATTRIBUTED TO RUETERS IN REGARD LEGISLATION INTRODUCED BY CONGRESSMAN ROBERT MICHAEL (PHONETIC). THIS LAW WOULD GRANT EXTENSION OF STAY IN THE US FOR LEBANESE CITIZENS TEMPORARILY IN US. MICHAEL STATED THAT AT PRESENT TIME THERE ARE ABOUT 2000 LEBANESE IN US ON TEMPORARY VISAS. LAW WOULD PERMIT EXTENSION FOR 6 MONTHS. MICHAEL IS QUOTED: "IT IS UNJUST TO FREIGHT INDIVIDUALS TO A COUNTRY TORN BY STRIFE LIKE LEBANON SIMPLY FOR A TECHNICAL REASON."COMMENT: WE ASSUME LAW INTENDED OVERCOME 6 MONTH LIMITATION OF ADMITTANCE OF B-2 VISITORS. ASSUME HIS FIGURE OF 2000 IS VERY MUCH ON LOW SIDE.

2. WE HAV ALSO HEARD OF PREVIOUS ARTICLE IN UNIDENTIFIED AND UNFINDABLE ARABIC PAPER REGARDING A KENNEDY BILL WHICH WOULD PERMIT ADJUSTMENT OF STATUS FOR ALL LEBANESE CURRENTLY IN US.

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3. TO DATE WE HAVE NOT HAD MUCH REACTION TO THESE PRESS
REPORTS. NEVERTHELESS WOULD APPRECIATE FURTHER INFORMATION
ON THESE OR OTHER BILLS TO ASSIST US IN DEALING WITH ANY
INQUIRIES.
BROWN

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